Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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CONFIDENTIAL DOHA 772

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3716

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: ENRG, QA

SUBJECT: LAWSUIT AGAINST GULF OIL OVER ALLEGED VIOLATION OF CONTRACT TO PURCHASE QATARI CRUDE

REF: DOHA 757

- 1. CONSULAR OFFICER NOTARIZED AFFIDAVIT OF MINISTER OF FINANCE AND PETROLEUM, SHAYKH ABD AL-AZIZ BIN KHALIFA AL-THANI, ON MORNING OF JUNE 10. SIGNING OF AFFIDAVIT ACCOMPLISHED IN MINISTER'S OFFICE WITH CONOFF PRESENT.
- 2. AFTER DOCUMENT SIGNED, GULF ATTORNEY, MR. WILLIAM DUCK, ALLOWED E/C OFFICER TO READ IT AT EMBASSY. AFFIDAVIT WAS IN TWO PARTS, FIRST OF WHICH DENIED THAT EITHER GENERAL OR SPECIFIC AUTHORIZATION HAD BEEN GIVEN TO MR. TAUB OR TO ANY OTHER INDIVIDUALS (OF WHICH THREE WERE SPECIFICALLY NAMED) TO ACT IN BEHALF OF GOVERNMENT OF QATAR. SECOND PART WAS SPECIFIC DENIAL OF AUTHENTICITY OF A TELEX MESSAGE WHICH GULF ATTORNEY FEELS MAY BE ENTERED AS EVIDENCE. MESSAGE IS PURPORTED TO HAVE BEEN SENT BY MINISTER TO MR. TAUB AND, IF AUTHENTIC, WOULD TEND TO SUPPORT MR. TAUB'S CLAIMS.
- 3. MINISTER IS REPORTEDLY EXTREMELY INTERESTED IN KEEPING EXISTENCE AND CONTENTS OF DOCUMENT CONFIDENTIAL, AND REQUIRED GUARANTEES FROM GULF PRESIDENT AND GULF BOARD CHAIRMAN THAT CONFIDENTIAL.

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CONFIDENTIALITY WOULD BE PRESERVED. KILLGORE

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TAGS: ENRG, QA, US, GULF OIL

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